

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 067498
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC/LHW
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON
IO - MR. HELMAN
S/S-O:SVALERGA

-----001157 160331Z /14

O 160240Z MAR 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 067498

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, IS, LE, MOPS

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REQUEST FOR U.S. INTERVENTION

REF: BEIRUT 1390

1. PLEASE INFORM SARKIS THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED HIS FORMAL
REQUEST, TRANSMITTED BY YOU, THAT WE INTERCEDE WITH THE
ISRAELIS TO WITHDRAW UNCONDITIONALLY.

2. PLEASE ASSURE THE PRESIDENT THAT WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT
LEBANON'S SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. WE ALSO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 067498

RECOGNIZE THE GREAT PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEEN POSED TO
THE SARKIS GOVERNMENT BY THE ISRAELI ACTION. WE WILL DO
OUR VERY BEST IN THE PERIOD AHEAD TO BRING ABOUT AN OUT-
COME WHICH WILL PROTECT LEBANON'S NATIONAL INTERESTS.

3. EXPLAIN TO SARKIS THAT WE ARE ALREADY IN CLOSE TOUCH
WITH THE ISRAELIS REGARDING NEED FOR THEIR EARLY WITH-

DRAWAL FROM THE SOUTH, BEARING IN MIND LEBANON'S CONCERNS AND THE PRESSURES WHICH ITS GOVERNMENT IS UNDER TO DO SOMETHING. ISRAELIS HAVE ASSURED US THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND TO REMAIN BUT ARGUE THAT BEFORE WITHDRAWING, THEY

NEED CREDIBLE ASSURANCE PLO WILL NOT RETURN TO BORDER AREA. WE ARE EXPLORING WAYS IN WHICH THE UN'S PEACEKEEPING MACHINERY COULD BE EFFECTIVELY USED IN THIS SITUATION, BUT

CANNOT SAY MORE UNTIL SITUATION BECOMES CLEARER.

4. NOTE THAT USUN HAS BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR TUEINI IN NEW YORK. (DRAW ON USUN'S REPORTING CABLE) AND SAY IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT OUR MISSIONS COORDINATE CLOSELY IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

5. CONCLUDE THIS PART OF THE PRESENTATION WITH AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH US THROUGH YOU AND THROUGH TUEINI TO USUN AS WE MOVE FORWARD.

6. AFTER THIS PRESENTATION, PLEASE TRY TO GET A FIRMER GRIP ON LEBANESE VIEWS. FYI - IMPLICATION IN REFTEL IS THAT THE LEBANESE WOULD PREFER TO SEE THE PALESTINIANS REMAIN IN THE SOUTH AND TRY TO RETURN TO THE POSITIONS WHICH THE ISRAELIS HAVE BEEN ATTACKING, RATHER THAN SEE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 067498

THEM MOVE A FEW MILES FURTHER NORTH, AND REMAIN THERE. RETURNING TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE IN SOUTH LEBANON IS SIMPLY NOT ON SO FAR AS ISRAELIS ARE CONCERNED. EVEN IF IT WERE, WOULD SIMPLY MEAN THAT THE ISRAELIS WOULD ATTACK THE AREA AGAIN AND AGAIN IN RESPONSE TO NEW PROVOCATIONS. OUR OWN VIEW IS THAT THERE MAY BE A WAY, USING THE UN'S PEACEKEEPING MACHINERY, WHEREBY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY COULD BE RE-ESTABLISHED AND REASSERTED, AT LEAST IN THE ZONE WHERE ISRAELI FORCES ARE NOW. THIS COULD OFFER SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE SECURITY SITUATION, PERMIT THE RETURN OF SOME REFUGEES, EASE ISRAEL'S CONCERNS, AND ALSO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF A REPETITION OF THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS. WHAT TO DO WITH PLO FORCES THAT MOVE NORTH IS A PROBLEM BUT CANNOT TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER IMMEDIATE AND URGENT NEED FOR STABILIZING BORDER AREA AND GETTING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. WE HOPE YOU CAN BRING THE GOL TO ACCEPT THAT REALITY. END FYI.
VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, INTERVENTION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE067498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDRAPER:JFC/LHW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: P840176-1486
Format: TEL
From: STATE NEA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780359/aaaabxug.tel
Line Count: 113
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 75dca1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 BEIRUT 1390
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3303006
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040618
Subject: LEBANESE REQUEST FOR U.S. INTERVENTION
TAGS: PEPR, MOPS, PBOR, IS, LE, US
To: BEIRUT DAMASCUS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75dca1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014